

From: Paul Fernhout
To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I think the proposed settlement is a bad idea because it does not require Microsoft to document all file formats Microsoft products use. This lack of documentation of file formats (and other related communication formats such as for data transfer over sockets) is a major barrier to competition, essentially locking users into the Microsoft product suite in order to read or modify documents others generate. Ideally, Microsoft should be required to document all file formats concurrently or before the release of new versions of products such as Microsoft Word or other Office products.

-Paul Fernhout
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